

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Official Action. The present response is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

The allowability of claims 2, 4-6, 9-11, 16, 18, 27, 28, 30-38, and 40-49 is noted with appreciation.

Claims 1, 7, and 8 stand rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman et al. (U.S. 6,593,854) in view of Lo (U.S. 5,166,929). These claims have been cancelled without prejudice.

Claim 39 is objected to because it depends from claims that were rejected. Claim 39 has been amended to include the recitation of the base claim on which it was dependent and is therefore deemed to be allowable.

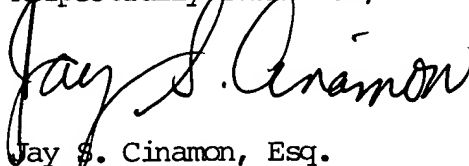
Applicant has carefully studied the prior art of record herein and concludes that the invention as described and claimed in the present application is neither shown in nor suggested by the cited art.

Applicant reserves the right to pursue the claims as filed in the context of a continuation application.

In view of the foregoing remarks, all of the claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fees which may be due and which have not been submitted herewith to our Deposit Account No. 01-0035.

Respectfully submitted,



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